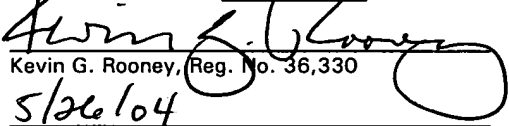




IFW

# PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 26, 2004

  
Kevin G. Rooney, Reg. No. 36,330

5/26/04  
Date

Applicants: Stephen Ronald Warburton-Pitt et al.  
Serial No.: 10/785,549  
Filed: February 24, 2004  
Art Unit: 1722  
Examiner: Unknown  
Confirmation No.: 8147  
Title: TUBING AND CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY  
Atty Docket No.: NPP-02C

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

May 26, 2004

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of candor and good faith imposed by 37

C.F.R. §1.56 and means of complying therewith according to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are called to the

attention of the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited references with an asterisk (\*) have already been supplied in connection with U.S. Patent Application Ser. Nos. 09/951,366 (abandoned) and 08/909,450 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,290,265). The present application is a continuation application of 09/951,366 and claims the benefit thereof under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) copies of the cited references need not be provided herewith. If additional copies of these references are desired, please contact the undersigned and they will be forwarded immediately.

Applicants have also enclosed copies of a Request for Ex Parte Reexamination filed in regard to U.S. Patent No. 6,290,265 and the Order Granting Request for Ex Parte Reexamination. The documents cited in the Request for Ex Parte Reexamination are also attached hereto and listed on the attached PTO-1449.

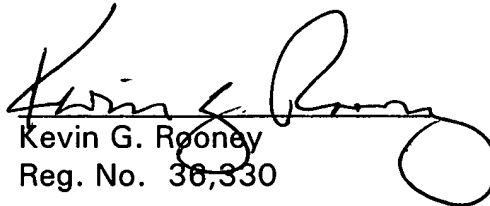
No admission is made that the cited references constitute "prior art" under any statutory basis or that the cited references are material or constitute the most relevant art. The Examiner is urged to consider the cited documents and to make an independent evaluation of their teachings and materiality.

Applicants believe that this communication is being mailed before a first action on the merits and, therefore, no fee is due. If this is not the case, the

Commissioner is authorized to charge deposit account 23-3000 for any required fees.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.



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SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. NPP/02C		SERIAL NO. 10/785,549	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				APPLICANT Stephen Ronald Warburton-Pitt et al.			
(Use several sheets if necessary)							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A.A	3 4 5 8 6 1 9	7/1969	Prochaska*	264	261	
	A.B	3 4 6 3 6 9 1	8/1969	Martin*	156	294	
	A.C	3 5 4 0 2 2 3	11/1970	Ebbe*	61	12	
	A.D	4 0 7 0 0 4 4	1/1978	Carrow*	285	156	
	A.E	4 0 7 6 2 8 2	2/1978	Scott, Jr. et al.*	285	156	
	A.F	4 2 0 3 4 3 6	5/1980	Grimsrud*	128	214	
	A.G	4 5 9 6 5 5 7	6/1986	Pexa*	604	86	
	A.H	4 6 6 1 1 1 0	4/1987	Fortier et al.*	604	256	
	A.I	4 8 1 5 7 6 9	3/1989	Hopperdietzel*	285	41	
	A.J	4 9 9 7 2 1 3	3/1991	Traner et al.*	285	155	
	A.K	5 2 5 4 0 9 7	10/1993	Schock et al.*	604	167	
FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	A.L	580160	7/1959	Canada*			
	A.M	6-42687	2/1994	Japan*			
	A.N	40-6101792	4/1994	Japan*			
	A.O	6-101791	4/1994	Japan*			
	A.P						
	A.Q						
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)							
	A.R	Sani-Tech, Inc., <u>Creating a World Standard in Sanitary Connective Technology</u> , Catalog, Copyright 1991, pgs. 1-10					
	A.S	Sani-Tech, Inc., <u>Sani-Link Unitized Fittings</u> , Photographs, undated (Exhibit A)					
	A.T	Sani-Tech, Inc., Photograph, undated (Exhibit B)					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not in conformance. Draw line through citation only if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

SUBSTITUTE FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. NPP/02C		SERIAL NO. 10/785,549							
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)  (37 CFR 1.98(b))				APPLICANT Stephen Ronald Warburton-Pitt et al.									
				FILING DATE February 24, 2004		GROUP 1722							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
EXAMINER INITIAL		PATENT NUMBER				ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE			
	B.A	5	2	9	2	3	0	5	3/1994	Boudewijn et al.*	604	43	
	B.B	5	4	1	1	3	0	0	5/1995	Mitsui*	285	292	
	B.C	5	4	2	9	3	9	7	7/1995	Kanao*	285	288	
	B.D	5	4	4	7	3	4	1	9/1995	Hartel et al.*	285	238	
	B.E	5	4	5	3	0	8	8	9/1995	Boudewijn et al.*	604	43	
	B.F	5	5	6	8	9	4	9	10/1996	Andre*	285	284	
	B.G	5	9	4	5	0	5	2	8/1999	Schryver et al.*	264	167	
	B.H	6	4	3	2	3	4	5	8/2002	Warburton-Pitt*	364	263	
	B.I												
	B.J												
	B.K												
FOREIGN PATENTS OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS													
		DOCUMENT NUMBER				PUBLICATION DATE			COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	B.L												
	B.M												
	B.N												
	B.O												
	B.P												
	B.Q												
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Place of Publication)													
	B.R												
	B.S												
	B.T												
EXAMINER						DATE CONSIDERED							
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not in conformance. Draw line through citation only if not in conformance <u>and</u> not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													